

REMARKS

The instant divisional application relates *inter alia* to cosmetic compositions and methods involving cosmetic compositions. For instance, in place of the original claims, new independent claim 19 recites a method of treating skin comprising applying a cosmetic composition comprising citrulline to skin so that active oxygen in the skin is scavenged by the citrulline. This method is supported by the specification, such as in paragraphs [0020] to [0024]. Independent claim 22 defines a cosmetic composition wherein the improvement comprises citrulline in an amount effective to scavenge active oxygen when applied to the skin. It will be noted that the claim is in Jepson format in accordance with position taken by the Examiner on page 4 of the Official Action dated March 25, 2003, in the parent application. Independent claim 25 relates to a method of preventing active oxygen injury comprising adding citrulline to a cosmetic composition to decrease active oxygen content similar to the subject matter of original claim 6, while new independent claim 26 relates to a method to improve preservation of an active oxygen phobic substance to decrease active oxygen content of the active oxygen phobic substance, which defines the subject matter of original claim 7 with greater specificity.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims are patentable over the art of record, particularly Waugh, U.S. Patent No. 5,874,471, which relates to a method of promoting orthomolecular health in order to sustain favorable amounts of L-arginine within the human body by the administration of sizable amounts of L-citrulline as a precursor substance for bioconversion to L-arginine in order to maintain greater blood plasma concentrations of L-arginine as a potential substrate for various metabolic functions. Such

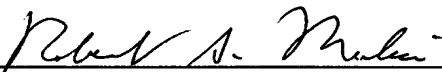
a teaching does not in any way lead to an appreciation of citrulline in the manner defined in the claims of record, particularly in a cosmetic composition which can scavenge active oxygen in the skin.¹

In view of the claims now of record, applicants respectfully request consideration of the instant divisional application and favorable consideration on the merits. In this respect, applicants ask the Examiner to acknowledge the filing of the certified copy of Japanese priority document that was filed on December 10, 2002, in the next Official Action.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 25, 2003

¹ It is noted that the word "not" was inadvertently omitted in distinguishing Waugh in the first sentence of first full paragraph on page 5 of the Amendment filed on December 10, 2002, in the parent application.